

SILICA-RUBBER MIXTURES HAVING IMPROVED HARDNESS

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for increasing the hardness of silica/rubber mixtures is disclosed wherein the method comprises blending with said mixture at least one silane and a hardness-increasing amount of at least one member selected from the group consisting of thixotropic fumed silica; precipitated silica; an MQ resin wherein Q is $\text{SiO}_{4/2}$, M is $\text{R}^1\text{R}^2\text{R}^3\text{SiO}_{1/2}$, and R^1 , R^2 , and R^3 are the same or different functional or non-functional organic groups; carbon black; a thermoplastic resin; and a thermosetting resin.